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Rape Charges Filed Against Sherman Oaks Businessman, Reality TV Personality

A Sherman Oaks man that appeared on the reality TV show "Millionaire Matchmaker," was charged today with sexually assaulting three women, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Matthew Vodnoy said Michael Leslie Bernback (dob 10/18/52) faces eight felony counts: one count each of sexual penetration by a foreign object; attempted sodomy by use of force; forcible rape; forcible oral copulation; rape by use of drugs; rape of unconscious person and two count of administering drug to commit rape.

Additionally, case LAo81697 charges Bernback with three misdemeanor counts of possessing three different controlled substances: MDMA (also known as ecstasy), GHB and cocaine. The complaint includes allegations the defendant administered a controlled substance to a victim and tied and bound another victim during the sexual attack.

Arraignment was scheduled today but it was continued to Sept. 28 in Dept. 100 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

The incidents are alleged to have occurred to three different women on March 23, 2014, Sept. 27, 2014 and Aug. 11, 2015.

If convicted as charged, Bernback faces a possible maximum sentence of multiple life terms in state prison.

Bail has been set at \$2.1 million bail.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Van Nuys Station.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.